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Ontario Association of
Children's Aid Societies



June 23, 2021

The purpose of *VaxFacts* is to share the most recent and best information about all things COVID-19 vaccine, from credible, Canadian sources to help the conversations you are having with children, youth and families. If you have a resource or event that you think the sector would benefit from, send it to us via covid19@oacas.org and don't hesitate to share this email.

Check out oacas.org/EveryShotCounts for all the information referenced in *VaxFacts* and more!

Recent News

- [Last week](#) we talked about the Delta variant and the concern about its incidence (and subsequent push to accelerate second shots) and that acceleration continues into this week. You can read the release from June 17 with the latest eligibility [here](#).

- **Last week, the Region of Waterloo was added to the list of “hot spots” because of the high incidence of Delta cases.** Your local PHU remains the best avenue for up-to-the-minute information about eligibility in your area.
- **Guidance around “mixing and matching” vaccines recently evolved.** [This great summary](#) (in English and French) lays out the science behind the decision and explains the possibilities for your second shot. You can also find it on Instagram [here](#).

Children and Youth

- **Public Health Ontario [reports](#) that as of June 16, 53.2% of children 12-17 have received at least one dose of their COVID-19 vaccine.** If you’d like to see how your PHU is progressing to help you benchmark progress with the youth you work with, you can find your PHUs data [here](#). Select the tab “Vaccine Rankings” and then the age group you’d like to see via the drop down on the right-hand side.
- **There has been much in the news about cases of myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle) and pericarditis (inflammation of the muscle that lines the heart) in young adults, post the COVID-19 vaccine.** Read [this summary](#) in French and English, by [Science Up First](#), which explains the incidence, warning signs, and explains why vaccination is still recommended. If you’d like more detailed information on the same, Public Health Ontario published an “At a Glance” circular on June 18. You can read it [here](#).

Our favorite resource this week:

- **Not sure how to start the conversation with young people about the COVID-19 vaccine?** [Check out this great slideshow](#) from the folks at [Public Health Fact Checkers](#) or find it on Instagram [here](#).

The one thing we'll be watching this week:

- **Throughout the pandemic, the Black Scientists' Task Force on Vaccine Equity has been a well-thumbed resource for us.** If you haven't visited their website, have a look for past Town Halls, FAQs, and a fantastic myth busting series, all informed by the experience and expertise of the Black community. This week, they published their final report and recommendations to inform the continued work needed to broker trust and engage the Black community, including Black youth, around vaccines. Read it [here](#).

About the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies:

Since 1912, OACAS has represented Ontario's Children's Aid Societies in Ontario and provided service in the areas of government relations, communications, information management, education and training to advocate for the protection and well-being of children.

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